VOL. XXVIII. NO. 47

Feature Luxembourg This Week

Liberty 11/2c F.D. Mt. Vernon, Va.

Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield has announced the description of the 1½c Mount Vernon stamp of the Liberty series. The fourteenth of the new regular series to be released, it will be first placed on sale at Mount Vernon, Va. on February 22.

20.38

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This stamp will be 0.75 by 0.87 of an inch in dimension, arranged horizontally, printed by the rotary process, electric-eye perforated, and issued in sheets of 100. The color of the stamp will be announced later.

The central design, reproduced from-a photograph, features a view of Mount Vernon facing the Potomac River. Dominating the top of the stamp is the wording "Mount Vernon" and across the bottom "1½c U.S. Postage." All lettering is in white-face Architectural Roman.

Stamp collectors desiring first day cancellations may send a reasonable number of addressed envelopes to the Postmaster at Mount Vernon, Va. with money order remittance to cover the cost of the stamps to be affixed. An enclosure of medium weight should be placed in each envelope and the flap either sealed or turned in. The outside envelope to the Postmaster should be endorsed "First Day Covers."

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HERE IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY:



FOR MRS. WOODROW WILSON. When the 7c Woodrow Wilson of the Liberty Series had its first day of issue January 10 at Staunton, Va. the widow of the late president was presented with a special album containing a pane of 100 of the stamp. This pane was autographed by PMG Summerfield. Making the presentation to Mrs. Wilson is Robert E. Fellers, Director of the Post Office Department's Division of Philately.

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of the United Nations, but the first day of issue won't be until some time in April at which time the stamps will arrive from the printer in the United States.

The actual anniversary occurred last October 24.

Denominations, according to El-mer S. Smith, P. O. Box 3714, An-con, Canal Zone, are 6c, 30c, 50c and 1 Balboa. The first three will have the UN emblem, and the high value the flags of the UN and

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"Land Of Haunted Castles" Has Well Designed Issues, Laudable Philatelic History

Richard E. Parke

Dotted with the ruins of over a hundred castles, said to be peopled by the ghosts of brave knights and fair ladies of the Middle Ages, Luxembourg is aptly called "Land of Haunted Castles". A little nation with its greatest dimensions only 62 by 37 miles, it nevertheless offers to the tourist a great variety of scenic beauty; it offers much to the philatelist in search of a specialty, Small countries have a romantic appeal but often present a handicap due to the lack of native collectors and a consequent lack of sources for information and direct contact. and a consequent lack of sources for information and direct contact.

Luxembourg does not suffer from this lack; among its 300,000 highly

Belgium or Germany, dependent of the contact of

this lack; among its 300,000 mgm/s literate inhabitants are thousands of collectors and several active clubs, the largest of which publishes a specialized catalog and a monthly journal.

a monthly journal.

There are handbooks in French and German and in this country we have Francis Rhein's useful "Postal History of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg." We also have the Luxembourg Philatelic Study

Club.

With only 27 major varieties cataloging over \$10 and with no great rarities, this is a country possible to complete, but some items will require much searching among dealers, auctions and other collectors. There are about 365 major varieties of the regular issues, airs and dues, 185 semipostals and 180 officials.

Just as Luxembourg is a miniature nation, so are its specialties

Just as Luxembourg is a miniature nation, so are its specialties miniature and its collectors are able to enjoy them all. The U. S. collector finds it an impossibility to specialize in the thousands of precancels, meters, first flight covers and postmarks, together with the regular stamps.

In contrast, the Luxembourg collector finds only 153 precancels issued between 1900 and 1925. Meters replaced these, and, with their various slogans make a fine separate collection.

various slogans make a fine separate collection.

In aerophilately, a dozen covers will represent all the first and special flights in Luxembourg, but in addition there is a great opportunity for those who like mixed franking. For ten years air mail letters were franked only partly with Luxembourg stamps, the air fee being paid by stamps of France,

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Belgium or Germany, depending upon the country to which the let-ter was routed to take the plane, there being no air line serving Luxembourg until 1946.

Many interesting Zeppelin covers are to be found with both Luxem-bourg and German stamps, such mail having been officially carried on most Graf Zeppelin and Hindenburg flights.

With about a hundred post offices, a collection of postmarks of different periods offers a fine field. This would include the various advertising slogans, commemorative postmarks and official markings for philatelic exhibitions. Railway postmarks since 1875 should also be included, making another distinct speciality.

included, making another distinct speciality.

Of special interest to the writer are the postmarks of the German occupation of 1940-44, during which new German postmarks were issued to each office. After the liberation, postal markings in French were returned to use.

During the Occupation, Luxembourg was annexed to Germany as the province of Moselland and German stamps were used exclusively from 1941 to 1944. When used with proper postmarks these be-

with proper postmarks these be-come a legitimate part of a Luxem-bourg collection and a very fascinating one.

cinating one.

Returning to the general issues, these offer fine old classics and beautiful moderns, with shade and perforation varieties for specialists. There is much pleasure in trying to complete the issues from 1880-91 in each of the perforations to be found. Although not backward in (Continued on page 12)

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LUXEMBOURG PHILATELIC STUDY CLUB

A round-robin letter was the origin of the Luxembourg Philatelic Study Club, and as it traveled between a few enthusiastic Luxembourg Study Club, and as it traveled between a few enthusiastic Luxembourg stamp collectors, the idea for the group was born. It took concrete form when the first issue of the club's monthly publication. The Luxembourg Philatelist, made its appearance in May 1950. Since that date the journal has not skipped a single number. The Study Club's constitution states that it was formed to promote and encourage the collecting of the stamps and other postal items of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. Members being so widely scattered has made it impossible to hold meetings, thus their monthly journal serves as a liaison and keeps them informed on all philatelic items of importance concerning Grand Ducal stamps.

The LPSC has sponsored the publication of three outstanding contributions to Luxembourg's postal history:

(1) The Evolution of the Postal System in Luxembourg, by Charles Rousseau.

(2) Luxembourg Revenue Catalog, by Josef Schonfeld.
(3) Luxembourg Bibliography: Stamps and Postal History, by James Taylor Dunn.

President—Thomas P. Duffy, West Haven, Conn.
Secretary-Treasurer—Warren W. Sadler, 3222 Kensington Ave., Richmond, Va.
Directors—Francis Rhein, Kent, Conn.; Maury Swartz, Silver Spring,

Monthly Journal—"The Luxembourg Philatelist"
Editor—Mrs. John F. Jarvis, Seattle, Wash.
Editor for this Luxembourg edition—James Taylor Dunn, St. Paul, Minn.

All persons interested in obtaining information concerning this active group should contact the secretary-treasurer, Warren W. Sadler, whose address is given above.

Luxembourg Notebook

James T. Dunn

At the close of World War II, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg tried out the First Day of Issue idea with a special souvenir folder on November 6, 1944, and with their March 1945 Liberation set. But it was not until well over three and a half years later that Postal Director Emile Raus instituted the I'er Jour d'Emission postmark for the first day of all new Luxembourg stamps. With only a few exceptions, this has been a regular feature of subsequent first day sales since November 18, 1948, when the Edmond de la Fontaine ("Dicks") charity series was released.

Except for several specially de-

charity series was released.

Except for several specially designed postmarks and the occasional use of a town's usual obliteration, only two types of first day postmarks have been employed. One (which could be called Type a) reads Luxembourg-Letzeburg and resembles the regular postmarks; the other (Type b) in script is the more decorative of the two — both use only the Luxembourg-City post office.

The portrait of St. Willibrord Shown on Scott Types SP29 and SP59 is the reproduction of a miniature from the Vie Illustree de Saint Willibrord, an illuminated manuscript of the end of the 11th century which was the work of the celebrated Echternach school of painting. The manuscript is located at Gotha. SP31 depicting the famous dancing processing honoring this same saint is a copy of a painting by the contemporary Luxembourg artist Lucien Simon.

Since December 1945 Luxem-

Since December 1945 Luxembourg's stamps have been printed by Courvoisier in Switzerland or by Enschede in Holland. These

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352	16	Coil(Pair	85.50)	2.75
379	Re	Orange		2.55
399	Bo	Panama Pacific	-	6.25
402	20	Pan-Pacific, perf 10	_	7.25
416	100	Orange Yellow	_	1.65
418	150	Gray	_	4.25
422	50c	Violet	-	16.00
426		Violet	3.90	.95
428	Re	Blue	4.50	1.10
432	Ge	Blue	9.25	2 40
433	100	Orange Yellow		1.85
442	200	Coil(Pair	1.80)	90
443	. 10	Coil(Pair	1 60)	.80
444	20	Coil(Pair	86 50)	3 25
461	20	Carmine		6.35
468	Bo	Orange		6.00
470	80	Olive Green	_	3.20
473	110	Green	_	2.00
474	120	Claret Brown		3.15
475		Gray		10.00
476	90c	Ultramarine		12.50
519	200	Carmine		15.00
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547	\$2	Carmine & Black		14.00
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are private firms but all their stamp-printing business is rigidly controlled by supervisors sworn in by the Swiss and Netherlands governments respectively. From the counting of the sheets destined for the printer until the Swiss and Holland governments deliver the sealed packages, this official control is not relaxed. The machines turn only in the presence of the supervisor. All waste and scraps are recorded and destroyed, also in the presence of the supervisor. Thus it is impossible for special favor sheets, etc. to come into the possession of special people or dealers.

The U.T.L. (Union des Tintbrophiles. Luxembourgeois). in 1955 celebrated their 65th anniversary. This active group pursuing the stamps of the Grandy Duchy was founded back in 1890 by Joseph Schock and sixteen other ardent collectors. The U.T.L. now has half a thousand members, among whom is one founding father, J. B. Staudt, the 91-year-old patriarch of all Luxembourg collectors.

John Boynton Kaiser, chief librarian of the Newark, N. J. Public Library, and one of the country's scholarly writers on philatelic subjects, has recently said about the Luxembourg Stamps and Postal History: A Bibliography:—"I am recommending it as a model for aspiring philatelists." Copies of this listing of books and articles about Grand Ducal stamps may still be obtained from the Philatelic Library Association, c/o Daniel Vooys, Canajoharie, New York. The Luxembourg checklist, compiled by James Taylor Dunn of St. Paul, Minn., appeared in a recent issue of that society's Review.

The Grand Duchy has eleven new ambulant cancellations, Cov-ers are being serviced by James T. Spalding, 1610-F Bulger Ct., Louisville 10, Ky. The deadline for these envelopes is March 15.

Luxembourg's first semipostal stamps, according to Vicki Jarvis, appeared in 1921. They were to aid the national fund for the erection of a monument in memory of the soldiers of that country killed in World War I. In 1940 this monument was destroyed by the Nazis, but has since been restored.

Waller A. Sager, editor of the COROS CHRONICLE states in an article entitled "The Nativity on Stamps" which was published in the Nov.-Dec. issue of the Fine Arts Philatelist:- "On 5 December 1955 Luxembourg issued a

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beautiful set of Christmas char-ity stamps which includes a de-sign showing the little Christ Child wrapped in swaddling clothes, a lamb in the background suggesting the manger. Colleccontinue wrapped in swadding clothes, a lamb in the background suggesting the manger. Collectors of stamps will rejoice to see this new stamp added to their albums, but if they were to stop to consider for a moment that this is the FIRST stamp actually to portray a true, authentic Nativity scene entirely free of all embellishments and anachronisms, how much more would they rejoice that Luxembourg has at last filled this long felt need. You will doubtless find other stamps to portray the Nativity, but all of them fall short of the simple beauty and unassuming impressiveness of August Tremont's new design from Luxembourg." . . .

Francis Rhein's classic book on the stamps of Luxembourg is still available from the author at Kent, Conn. Recent advertisements of philatelic literature wants in stamp journals show that this fact is not generally known. All new members of the Study Club get a copy free.

Luxembourg was first with the idea of a universal postage stamp. This was back in the early 1890's, and the United States was the country which sponsored the bill by presenting it at a Universal Postal Union conference.

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Grace Kelly On Monaco Stamps?

The odds are fairly good that Grace Kelly, whose impending marriage to Monaco's ruler, Prince Ranier III, may become the first American actress to appear on foreign postage stamps.



Some of the royal couples appearing on stamps are shown. (Top)
Egypt, ex-king Farouk and queen
Narriman; (Conter) Iran, Shah
Mohammed Riza Pahlavi and his
bride, Soraya Esfandiari; (Bottom) Jordan, King Husseln and
Princess Dina Abdul Hamid, his
wife.

This interesting possibility was noted by Jacques Minkus of Gim-bels Stamp and Coin Department. It seems quite certain that Monaco will issue postage stamps to com-memorate the royal wedding since the little Mediterranean principal-

the little Mediterranean principality is very stamp conscious.

The precedent has already been established by other European countries such as Liechtenstein, Luxembourg and Italy. Ex-king Farouk also signalized his marriage to Farida, and later to Narriman, by special postal issues.

Miss Kelly might also be the sole subject on some later issues from Monaco, since this precedent was already established for former "Princesses Grace" of Monaco, Charlotte Grimaldi and Marie-Victoire.

Seals, Cachet For Houston Exhibition

Houston Exhibition

A seal and cacheted envelope have been prepared by the Houston, Texas Philatelic Society for the group's 11th annual stamp exhibition. This will be staged at the Palmer Memorial Church, 6221 Main St.; Houston, February 3 to 5.

The seal costs 5c plus a stamped, addressed envelope for its return. The cacheted covers are 10c each. Send orders and payments to Mrs. J. C. Stipp, 1213 Jackson Blvd., Houston 6, Texas.

A highlight of the three day affair will be an auction on Saturday evening beginning at 8 p.m. Winners in the juniors section will have their collection entered in FIPEX in New York City.

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Caduceus, Globe In U.N. Design

The UN Postal Administration The UN Postal Administration has released a photograph of the second commemorative set design of 1956, to be issued on April 6 in honor of the World Health Organization. Although it was previously announced that the two stamps would be issued on April 9 the date has been changed, so that they may be on hand to celebrate World Health Day on April 7.



There will be 3c and 8c denominations, the 3c blue-green, the 8c ochre. The design is by Olav Mathiesen of Denmark, a member of the United Nations Graphic Presentation Unit. It depicts a globe, against which is shown the caduceus, symbol of the World Health Organization. Printing will be by Thomas de la Rue and Co. Ltd. of England. Further details regarding the

Further details regarding the

printing and particulars on how to obtain the stamps and first day service will be announced at the end of February. Until that time, no orders or inquiries should be sent to the UN Postal Administration.

Organize Hobby Club At Van Wert, Ohio

Just organized for various collectors of the Van Wert County area is the Van Wert, Ohio Hobbyists Club. This organization will have one meeting a month on the second Wednesday at the Marsh Hotel.

James Gamble is the first president. His official family is made up of vice president Richard Polock; treasurer Denton Stetler; secretary Chalice M. Jerome, R. R. 4, Van Wert, Ohio.

Various programs on the different hobbies represented in the club are planned for the meetings.

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Also available are supplements for all foreign White Ace albums, too. You'll find them listed in the chart below.

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Entered as second class matter April 22, 1942, at the post office at Sidney. Ohio under the act of March S, 1879.

LEWIS F. TURLEY DISPLAY ADVERTISING RATES

Rates are per column inch per insertion. Transient, 1 inch \$4.80; 2 inch \$7.80; 8 inch \$10.20; 4 inch \$12.00; 5 inch \$13.50; (Contract rates lower.)

Rates for larger space and complete rate card on request.

CLOSING DATE for new copy or change. Wednesday noon. for publication second Monday following.

More On The Gripe Department

In our issue of December 24 we commented on an unsatisfactory transaction by a collector with a stamp dealer. At the time of comment we did not know the name of the dealer. We recognized the name of the collector as one of whom we considered reputable and of good



Perhaps this fact led us to some conclusions which have since turned out to be bad conclusions, for we have learned that the collector did not give us the real facts about the matter but misled us by misrepresenting some of them.

It so happens that the dealer recognized the transaction and knew about whom we were talking, although we did not know at the time.

the time.

It now seems that we should state some facts which we could not state before. We are going to name the dealer because the dealer is a highly reputable one and we feel that we should name him and let col-lectors know that there are many who can be depended on.

The dealer in question is The Homestead Stamp Company, Port Washington, New York. We learn from our files as well as

GEORGE W. LINN

GEORGE W. LINN

have been advertising in our columns ever since they started in business. We learn further from checking our records in our office in Sidney that we have never before had any complaint against this company for any cause whatever. The letter at hand concerning the editorial of December 24 is one of the most complaint against this company declaration. whatever. The letter at hand concerning the editorial of December 24 is one of the most complimentary we have ever received from any dealer after a situation of this nature has come up. The company frankly states that they respect our opinion and that we can make further comment if we wish and that we need have no fear of loss of advertising patronage because of our comment. Such letters as this are unsual, for too often any dealer who is called for unethical practices of any nature, no matter how guilty, immediately cancels his advertising contract and gives bigger space to our competitors. This therefore gives an opportunity to compliment the Homestead Stamp Company for their honorable and fair dealing.

It appears that the collector had sent an extensive and very tough want list to the Homestead people. They spent a good bit of time in trying to fill it and did send stamps valued at over \$100. The total purchases were about \$15 from this entire lot and anyone who knows anything about handling stamps by want lists would know that such a purchase from a want list is so immaterial that the dealer would rather not bother with it at all. Filling want lists is a very expensive method of operation.

of operation.

Further than this the collector led us to believe that he had paid very high prices for a couple of the stamps whereas we are shown records which indicate that the stamps were sold to the collector at less than half their catalog value.

less than half their catalog value. Further than this the collector stated that he had marked lightly with pencil on the back of the stamps he kept, and it is over this pencil marking on the back of the returned stamps that the dispute arose. We are shown some of the collector's light pencil marking as the company has submitted to us the original approval card in which the stamps were sent. The collector also wrote all over the back of these cards and it is by no means light pencil marking, but quite heavy marking that is certainly beyond what anyone has any right to do with other people's property.

people's property.

In concluding this matter we want to say now that we have not as yet named the collector concerned and we do not intend to do so. We regret that we were so naive as to accept his statements on this matter, but naturally we did believe he was telling us the true facts. We learn since that this was not the case and although we did not mention the SUPPLEMENT FOR THE 1955 STAMPS

Those who have the Linn Unit System of Album pages for United States stamps are hereby assured that a supplement for the stamps issued in 1956 will be produced and available as soon as we can make the necessary arrangements with the printer. Watch the pages of this paper for the announcement they are on hand here. There will be enough for all our customers.

name of the dealer, we do feel that in justice to reputable stamp dealers and there are many of them, that we should name this dealer and actually compliment him on his business methods and at the same time recommend him as being a reputable firm with which to deal.

There is little use in trying to quote from letters from this dealer. It appears we were misled in the first place and we dislike being misled when someone is asking our help in straightening out a situation of this sort.

ef this sort.

Perhaps the main part of this transaction revolves around the question of a stamp that was surcharged and which the collector claims was a fake overprint and which he marked on the back. It so happens that the dealer offered to refund for the stamp if returned to him in the same condition which it was received. The collector marked the stamp up on the back and that is therefore not a stamp in the condition in which it was received.

which it was received.

The dealer is certainly justified in his stand and of course the collector has some leg to stand on in his complaint, but the main thing

lector has some leg to stand on in his complaint, but the main thing about which we are concerned is that we were led into this controversy through misrepresentation on the part of the collector and we do not like that sort of business. Our opinion therefore is that the dealer concerned has presented a better case than has the collector.

These kind of things happen frequently. The main point about all such situations is that there must be a fair and honorable meeting ground for both the dealer and collector. One must have as much confidence and faith in the other as he expects the other to have in him. In this situation we are led to place our faith with the dealer.

Shrub Oak Snowed Under

In the unusual run of weather that has been prevalent since the first part of January and even earlier in the winter some unusual things

have come to pass.

Our usual batch of Christmas cards came from all over the United States and even from abroad. We heaved a sigh of relief after the holidays were over and thought we could settle down to work, but things were not yet all settled for we finally got a card from Pat Herst up in Shrub Oak, New York. We had to think of Pat at that time because we know how far back in the woods he has been living. The card bore a cancellation of December 12 and got to us here in Howey on January 4. We wonder if Pat is dug out yet and if the mail service up in that area is running on time again. area is running on time again.



Yeah, we're interested in buying this stamp store, Mack! Is it true that the Fifth National Bank has its vaults right next to your base-

Juniors' Deadline For FIPEX April 1

According to word received from Jacques Minkus, chairman of the FIPEX Junior Exhibits Committee, the deadline for displays in this category is April 1, not the earlier date as specified for the Senior section.

of the earlier date as specified for the Senior section.

This means that junior exhibits must be received in New York from the local clubs by that date.

Mr. Minkus also noted that two more major department stores are sponsoring local competitions for young stamp collectors in their areas. Rich's Stamp and Coin De-partment in Atlanta will be the partment in Atlanta will be the focal point for the competitions there, while Joske's of Texas will handle the contests for the juniors in the San Antonio area.

UN Reprints 10c Definitive Again

When the 3c and 8c UN Human Rights Day stamps were issued December 9 last, a total of 298,038 first day covers were serviced by the UN Postal Administration.

The UNPA has announced a second reprinting of the 10c regular in a quantity of 100,000. This value was originally released on November 16, 1951 in a printing of one million copies. It was reprinted in 1954 to the type of 100 000 1954 to the tune of 100,000.

The second reprint differs from the first in that no control numbers appear on the sheet.

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ALREADY ISSUED

1038 — Woodrow Wilson 7c, Staunton, Va., January 10. 1073-Ben Franklin 3c, Phila delphia, Pa. January 17.

UNITED NATIONS

Feb. 17 — International Tele-communications Union, 3c and 8c. April 6—World Health Organization, 3c and 8c.
October 24 — United Nations
Day, 3c and 8c.

December 10 — Human Rights Day, 3c and 8c.

To obtain First Day Covers collectors can send a reasonable quantity each with a name and address, and enclosing a stuffer to the Postmaster of the designated first day city with a request for FD Service. Payment must accompany to cover the face value of the stamps to be affixed. For UN and Canadian first days, watch the news stories on these and follow instructions.

Centennial, March Of Dimes Slogans

Three centennial slogans, and one for the March of Dimes have been announced as available to col-lectors by the Post Office Depart-ment. These can be gotten on postal cards bearing a name and address or envelopes containing a stuffer, and having a 3c stamp and

name and address.

Prepared cards or covers are then to be sent to the respective postmasters with a request that an impression of the slogan be applied.

Murrysville, Pa. will use its slogan for the March of Dimes until January 31.

January 31.

Uvalde, Texas has a centennial slogan in use to May 13.

Niagara University, N. Y. publicizes the school's 100 years of existence. It will be used to December 31. existence. It will be used to De-cember 31.

Monmouth, Ore. also notes 100

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BY CARL P. RUETH

Read this and remember?
On February 17 the United Nations will release a set of two commems for the International Telecommunication Union. The design of both will be identical with one exception—and that's were the trouble is apt to occur.
The 3c will have the initials of the organization adapted from the English language as ITU. However, on the 8c the initials will be from the French and inscribed UTI. Just remember that is the way

Just remember that is the way it is supposed to be and there has been no mistake and it is not a

A similar reversal of the initials A similar reversal of the initials occurred for the International Civil Aviation Organization last year when the 3c was ICAO, and the 8c OACI. I received scads of letters from hopefuls who were quite certain they had a rare error in the OACI 8-center.

So please, on this ITU-UTI deal keep your pulse and avidity under control.

1. Most stamps are inscribed "U. S. Postage". There has been one in the last five years with "Postage U.S.A.". Know which? 2. Another in this same span of years has just "Postage". Can you name it?

Harry A. Gordon, about whom there was an item in the January 16 U. S. Notes, comes with a letter in which great pain is expressed. My informant stated that Mr. Gordon lived in Brooklyn at bit of misinformation which has rocked Mr.

information which has rocked Mr. G to his very boot-tops.

He would like to have the world know that he lives in the Bronx, and is a rooter of the Yankee base-ball team, and only expects to repose in Brooklyn perhaps at the time of his death because there are so many marble rochards (cemeteries to you) there.

Guy Stoms of Naranja, Fla. visited his optometrist the other day where he learned that Benjamin Franklin, for whom there was a commem January 17, originated his own personal bi-focal glasses.

According to the story, Franklin asked the maker of his glasses to the first plant and the grant of the story in half and the story in half and the story.

cut his general use lens in half and mount them in the upper part of the frame, and the halves of the reading ones in the lower part.

Those of you who want to do something different this year for Valentines Day, February 14, are offered the facilities of the Loveland, Colo. post office. This town of 9000, which serves as a gateway for visitors to Rocky Mountain National Park, appropriately enough has as one of its chief products the making of sugar.

You can send your letters or valentines, each bearing a 3c stamp, and addressed to whom it is to go, in a bundle, care of the

stamp, and addressed to whom it is to go, in a bundle, care of the Postmaster, Loveland, Colo. If you have no special cancellation date in mind, these will be postmarked February 9 or 10, and placed in the mails so the recipients get theirs by February 14.

Again this year a cachet will be applied without cost. It shows Loveland's cowboy cupid, the Rockies, Loveland's "Heart L" brand and a bit of verse reading—
Loveland's Cowboy Cupid,
Throws his loop high, wide and

Throws his loop high, wide and

handsome.
With this Valentine to keep it

tight, He'll hold your heart for ransom.

A reader asks why our POD has issued no more two-colored stamps inasmuch as the Red Cross of 1952, and the 8c of the Liberty series

Anything in Fine U.S. Collections U. S. PLATE # BLOCKS SALE: MINT FINE-VY

DAVID F. CHASSY BOX 42-DL

sure.

I believe in time we will get quite a few bi-color designs. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing for months past has been in the process of acquiring and installing new presses which are capable of producing stamps in more than one color. one color.

producing stamps in more than one color.

Now and again someone writes that he was surprised to find commems of the past five years or so on sale in his local post office.

This is not an unusual thing even though such stamps have been off the philatelic agency list for many months. Every now and again Washington sends a memo to post-masters to return, back issues for credit. These are then not destroyed, but repacked and sent out to post offices around the nation for sale.

There is no special pattern of distribution for such material — it is just placed as the opportunity offers.

Talking about obsolete issues, just the other day I was approached by a man who had ten panes of each commem from the 1945 Al Smith to date. They had a face value of about \$600.

value of about \$600.

He wanted to liquidate them and up to that time had not been able to get face value. Best offer was 4% below face by the brokers who handle lots of this kind. He had faithfully accumulated this holding, issue by issue, in the hope he would be able to realize a profit some day.

day.

However, he was another one of those people who would not believe that investing in panes of U. S. commerns was a money-losing dream.

Live and learn.

Here's that 8th Annual Design Derby ballot again. How about being a very cooperative sport and reader and getting yours marked and sent in to me.

8TH ANNUAL DESIGN DERBY

Art Academy			
Colleges			
Rotary			
Armed Forces			
Stone Face			
Soo Locks			
Peace Atoms	0		
Ticonderoga			
Mellon			
Cert. Mail			
Franklin ½e			
Roosevelt 6c			
Lee 30c			
Marshall 40c			
Anthony 50a		1	

Henry \$1 Worst Design Least Necessary _ Would you like sets..... How Often

Send this to Carl P. Rueth, Linns Weekly Stamp News, Sidney, Ohio.

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were welcomed with so much pleasing it in an envelope, or draw a sure.

The New York City 300th Anniversary of Founding of 1953.
 The National Guard of 1953.

Chicago Dealer

Will Move To Florida

Walter N. Emerson has resigned as president of the American Stamp Dealers' Assn. chapter in Chicago. He will move to Florida.

Merrill Kirkland, veteran Chicago dealer, was elected to succeed Emerson as president and to proceed with plans for the forthcoming stamp show at the LaSalle Hotel March 2-4.

Emerson will become associated with Donald A. Howe, wholesale stamp dealer of Lakeland, Fla. and will take up his duties on March 1.

Emerson was previously secretary of the Chicago A.S.D.A. for six years and was twice president of the Chicago Philatelic Society, serving in 1929-31 and in 1954 when C.P.S. was host to the Society of Philatelic Americans.

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397	ic	Pan Pacific(70)	32.50	728	10	Cent. of Progr. VG-F(100)	2.25
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499h	5c	Double Error, Excep-		732	3c		4.25
		tionally Fine (100)	85.00	733	30	Byrd(\$0)	13.50
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548		Pilgrim(70)	19.50	736	30	Maryland (100)	8.00
549		Pilgrim(70)	32.50			Mothers Day Rotary (50)	2.25
		Chan Chan (100)	77.50	737	30	Mothers Day Flat (50)	3.25
536	I.C	Gray Green (100)	5.95	738	3c	Mothers Day Flat (36)	2.25
583		Carmine Very Good (100)		738	3c	Mothers Day Flat (36)	3.25
584		Violet(100)	145.00	739	3c	Wisconsin	72.50
610		Black Harding (100)	10.50	740	749	Wisconsin	
611		Black Harding Impf. (400)	395.00	772	3c	Connecticut	2.10
615		Hugenot Walloon (50)	22.00	773	3c	San Diego(50)	1.90
616	5c	Hugenot Wal. VG-F (50)	120.00	774	30	Boulder Dam (50)	1.90
616	Sc	Hugenot Walloon (50)	165.00	775	3c	Michigan	1.90
617	1c	Lex-Concord(50)	12.50	776	3c	Texas(50)	1.90
		Lex-Concord (50)	77.50	777	30	Rhode Island(50)	3.00
		Sesquicentennial (50)	15.00	782	30	Arkansas(50)	1.90
		Ericsson(50)	49.50	782	3c	Arkansas VG-F (50)	1.65
	20	White Plains Min (25)	25.00		30	Arkausas VG-F(50)	1.90
			2.75	783	30	Oregon(50) Susan B. Anthony(100)	3.30
034	1C	Green(100)		784		Susan B. Anthony (100)	9.75
	20	Carmine(100)	2.95	785-	789	1c-5c Army (50's)	10.75
	8c	Green VG-F(100)		790-		1c-5c Navy (50's)	
	9c	Orange red(100)	15.00	796	Sc	Virginia Dare(48)	6.75
	ZC	Vermont(100)	16.50	796	5c	Virginia Dare VG-F (48)	5.26
643	20	Vermont VG-F(100)	14.00	836	3c	Swedes and Finns (48)	5.25
647	2c	Hawaii(100)	35.00	836	3c	Swedes & Finns VG-F(48)	4.25
648	5c	Hawaii(100)	127.50	855		Baseball(50)	4.50
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684 1	1/20	Brown(100)	3.25	964	30	Oregon(50)	1.95
			9.75				2.90
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		Pulaski(100)		966	30	Palomar(70)	1.80
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		Blue (100)	21.50	968	3c	Poultry(50)	2.10
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707	90	Wash. Bicent (100)	3.25	976		Fort Bliss(70)	2.60
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1005	3c	4H C	lub	20	.19	.05	.0:
1006	30	B&O	RR	20	.19	.08	.0:
1007			A		19	.05	.0:
1008	3c	Nato	*****	26	.19	.05	.03
1009	3c	Gr. C	oulee		.19	.05	.03
1010	3c	LaFay	rette	.20	.19	.05	.03
1011	3c	Rushi	nore .	20	.19	.05	.03
1012	3c	Engin	eers .	20	.19	.05	.03
1013			Wome	n .20	.19	.05	.02
1014	30	Guter	burg .	20	.19	.05	.03
1015	3c	News	Boys	.20	.19	.05	
1016	3c	Red C	ross .	20	.19	.05	.02
C46	80c	Hawa		4.50	3.80	1.00	.45
RW1						2.35	.85
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Naples, Padua And Trieste International Fairs, Venice Art Exhibition Get Stamps

Bert Happ

(Continued From Last Week)

Naples Overseas Fair and World Italian Labor

This show was opened in the Exhibition Grounds at Naples on June 7, 1952 by the President of the Italian Republic, a mercantile and industrial display.

Following the same theme, a topical collection of stamps of non-Italian countries showing the work of Italians throughout the world on the continents of Asia, Africa, Europe, North and South America, was on exhibition in the salon of one of the buildings.

America, was on exhibition in the For Europe the works of Romans appearing on Romanian and Portuguese stamps, and the sculptural, artistic and architectural works of Italians appearing on stamps of Austria, Bulgaria, Portugal, Czechoslovakia, England, Poland, Hungary, Saar and Soviet Russia formed one section.

The Asiatic section contained

The Asiatic section contained stamps showing Roman remains, as well as the work of Italians which appear on Siamese and Turkish stamps.

Which appear on Statlese and Turkish stamps.

Africa included stamps with views of places with Latin names, as well as works of Italians on Egyptian and Algerian stamps, while the work of Italians on the Matadi-Leopoldville railroad was recalled.

Stamps of North and South America recalled Columbus and Cabot, and the works of Italians on both continents. Attention was given to the work of those of Italian descent in the new world.

world.

A display of the work of Francesco Tasso in starting the first international postal service as well as the establishment by Morteo of the mail service between Magazan and Marrakesch in Morocco received attention. This unique collection included stamps of Japan, Siam and Ecuador and Argentina, designed by Italians. (Scott No. 148)

The XXVI Biennial Art Exhibit at Venice.

The Four Evangelists, or writers of the Gospels, St. Matthew, St. Mark, St. Luke and St. John, are represented symbolically in art by a man or angel, a winged lion, a winged ox and an eagle in that order. St. Mark is represented by a winged Lion. In the piazza of San Marco in Venice two granite columns stand between the Doge's Palace and the Library. On one is the Winged Lion, symbol of St. Mark, the Patron Saint of Venice. The lion stands with one forepaw on the stands with one forepaw on the opened book of the Gospel of St. Mark.

Mark.
On the other column is a statue of St. Theodore, old Patron Saint of the Venetian Republic, holding a sword and shield, with his foot on a crocodile. Centuries ago a scaffold used to be erected between these two columns for the execution of criminals. (Scott No. 149).

XXX Fair of Padua.

The fairs of Italy began during the Middle Ages when on great feasts of the Church in the spring and fall agricultural produce was offered for sale. With the advent of the Industrial Revolution manufactured products appeared at of the Industrial Revolution manufactured products appeared at the fairs. Because these Fairs became so important in Italian economy they came under government control in 1932 under Mussolini. A decree of 1934 still in effect makes it necessary for the Ministry of Industry and Commerce to authorize each Fair on each occasion.

Commerce to authorize each Fair on each occasion.

In early times the main fairs seemed to be centered in Venice, Pavia, Bologna, Parma, Sinigallia, Merano and Bolzano, but by 1938 there were but five fairs of international importance: Verona Milan, Bari, Padua and Tripoli. Milan and Tripoli received great publicity on Italian stamps. Bari had its first stamp in 1949, while Padua had to wait until 1952 and



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its thirtieth fair to receive philatelic mention. With the return of Trieste to Italy another International fair was added to the list, publicized on Italian stamps in 1952, but already philatelically noted in Trieste from 1950 on.

noted in Trieste from 1950 on.

The Church of St. Anthony of Padua which appears on the stamp was begun immediately after the death of St. Anthony, who died in Padua. It was built after a design by Niccola da Pisa and finished in 1307, 280 feet long and 188 feet wide. Externally it looks like a mosque with its oriental domes and minarets. The body of St. Anthony lies in a chapel under the main altar.

St. Anthony was horn in Lis-

a chapel under the main altar.

St. Anthony was born in Lisbon, Portugal in 1198. Once a Dominican priest, he received permission to join the new mendicant order of St. Francis of Assisi. Journeying to Africa and thence to Italy, he spent his life preaching in Italy. So effective was he that he converted multitudes from sin and heresy, reconciled the bitterest enemies. The stamps of Italy of 1930 commemorating the 7th century of his death give scenes from his life from Portugal to Padua, and Portugal gives him a philatelic salute in 1931. Many stories are told of his miracles, some authentic, some legendary. He is a great favorite with Italians. (Scott No. 150).

The International

The International Fair at Trieste

This event was publicized on stamps of Trieste in 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954 for the 2nd to the 6th running of the Fair. The 1952 stamp was printed for use in Italy and overprinted for use in Trieste. The other stamps were

in Trieste. The other stamps were ordinary or commemorative postage with the notice of the Fair overprinted on the stamps.

The 1952 stamp shows the Cathedral of San Giusto at Trieste and the harbor. Although pictured on the waterfront, the Cathedral is on an eminence in the old part of the city, built over the ruins of a Roman temple, part of whose foundation and columns are still visible by the tower. It was made into its present form in the 14th century by the union of three sixth century buildings: an early Christian basilica, a small byzantine church with a dome and baptistry. St. Just or San Giusto is the

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patron of the ctiy.

Since the pictures on the other stamps are described elsewhere, we point only to the symbol of Trieste overprinted on the 1953 stamp, a stylized halberd. This is a detail from a 14th century seal of Trieste which appears in full on the stamps of Italy commemorating the Annexation of Trieste. On the seal is one of the gates of the city with three towers. Between the towers are two halberds with pennon. In the modern version the pennon is removed. (Scott No. 151).

(To be Continued)

Franklin Banquet, Officer Installation

To honor the man for whom their club was named, the Frank-lin Stamp Club of Greenfield, Mass., held a banquet January 17 on the 250th anniversary of Benjamin Franklin's birth.

It was also the time when the group installed their new officers and paid tribute to outgoing president Joseph A. Bellefeuille. Members attended with their wives.

Officers now are president Charles Shebell; vice president th. Eugene Mason; treasurer Murray Wartel; secretary Guy Aldrich.

FINE U.S. AIRMAIL SETS

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UN F.D.C., Mint Stamp Purchases

The UN Postal Administration has announced that the first day of issue of the set honoring the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) will be February 17.

Union (ITU) will be February 17.
The stamps, photographs of which have already been released, are in the 3c and 8c denominations, and were designed by Hubert Woyty-Wimmer, a member of the UN Postal Administration International Panel of Stamp Designers, of Messrs. Thomas de la Rue and Co. Ltd. England.

Thomas de la Rue and Co. Ltd. England.
Printed by that firm, which was awarded the 1956 printing contract for UN postage stamps, in quantities of one million of each denomination as an initial printing, they will be horizontal and measure 27mm x 40mm and will be issued in sheets of 50, with marginal inscriptions appearing twice on the right and twice on the left of each. On the 3c blue, the marginal inscription will be "ITU 1956"; and on the 8c carmine denomination "UIT 1956", this being the abbreviation of the name of the agency in French. Printing will be by the steel engraving process.

The stamps will be placed on sale at face value at UN Headquarters, New York, and at the European Office of the United Nations in Geneva at the prices established for this office on Friday, February 17. In London, the stamps will be available to dealers only, against payment in sterling.

ers only, against payment in ster-

ers only, against payment in sterling.

Ninety countries or territories
are members of the ITU, and five
are associated members. The organization has a threefold mission: to maintain and extend
international cooperation for the
improvement and rational use of
telecommunication; to promote
the development and most efficient operation of technical facilities in order to improve telecommunications services; make them
more widely used and, as far as
possible, generally available; and
to coordinate the efforts of nations to attain these common
ends.

tions to attain these common ends.

Detailed instructions as to the procedure for obtaining first day covers of the new stamps are:

1. First day service is only given at Headquarters, New York, against payment in U.S. dollars.

2. Persons desiring first day cancellations of the stamp may send in a reasonable number of addressed envelopes to the UN Postal Administration, United Nations, N. Y.

3. The outside envelope must be clearly marked "First Day Covers - ITU"

4. Remittance to cover the cost

be clearly marked "First Day Covers - ITU"

4. Remittance to cover the cost of stamps to be affixed must be enclosed in either money order or certified check. Personal checks will not be accepted, nor will postage stamps. Customers are urged not to send cash through the mail.

5. The denomination and quantity of stamps to be affixed should be clearly marked in pencil in the upper right hand corner of each envelope.

6. A filler of medium weight should be placed in each envelope, and the flap turned in. A poor cover might result if no filler is provided.

7. Requests for marginal inscription blocks will be filled only as far as possible, depending upon the number of marginal inscriptions available. On the other hand, the normal UN Postal Administration requirements concerning the number of stamps

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which must be purchased to obtain a marginal inscription are waived. However, no positional requests can be honored.

8. No mixed orders for both first day covers and mint stamps will be processed. Such orders will be returned to the sender. Customers are therefore urged to send in orders separately.

remittance.

Hotel Detroit, Mich.

send in orders separately.

Separate orders for mint stamps will be accepted, and these should be addressed to the UN Postal Administration, United Nations, N. Y. It should be noted that, in respect of mint orders, the normal provisions concerning marginal inscriptions will apply, and collectors should also remember to allow for return postage and registration when necessary in their remittance.

EXHIBITION DATES

Jan. 27-29—CHESAPEX, Maryland Institute of Art, Baltimore, Mr. Jan. 28-29—Dayton Philatelic Society, The Loretto, Dayton, Ohlo.

Feb. 3-5—Houston Philatelle Society, Pal-mer Memorial Church, Houston, Texas. Feb. 4-5—Cleveland Stamp Club, Hollenden Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio. Feb. 10-12—Tucson Stamp Club, Pioneer Hotel, Tucson, Ariz.

Feb. 11-12-Michigan Stamp Club, Tuller

Feb. 17-19—Phoenix Philatelic Assn., Public Library Auditorium, Phoenix, Ariz. Labrary Audutorium, Fnoenix, Aris.
Feb. 18-19—Ravenswood Stamp Club, 4219
Lincoln Ave., Finnish Hall, Chicago, Ill.
Feb. 24-26—North Shore Philatelic Society,
Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago, Ill.
Feb. 25-26—Columbus Philatelic Club,
Southern Hotel, Columbus, Ohio.

March 3-4-North West Stamp Society, K. of C. Hall, 13500 Lesure. Detroit, Mich. or C. Hait, 1300 Lecure. Detroit, 3010th.
March 9-12—POLIPEX, Polonus Philatelic
Society, Polish Falcons Hall, 1062 N. Ashland, Chicago. Ill.
March 10-11—Springfield Stamp Society,
Hotel Bancroft. Springfield, Ohio.
March 24-25—McKinley Stamp Club.
Onesto Hotel, Canton, Ohio.

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March 24-25—North Toronto Stamp Club. North Toronto Memorial Gardens, Toron-to, Canada.

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Jamaica. 126 15c, 127 66c, 128 \$1.35.
Malta. 217 7c, 218 15c, 219 25c, 220 30c, 231 65c.
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Nigeria. 80-7 15c. 88-90 90c, 91 \$1.50.
Papua. 122-134 \$1.10.
Sarawak. 199-193 40c, 193 60c, 19 \$1.15.
Colembia. C168 75c, C173 25c, new 100p 25c, 200p 45c.
Colembia. C168 75c, C173 25c, new 100p 25c, 200p 45c.
Colembia. C168 75c, C173 25c, new 100p 25c, 200p 45c.
Colembia. C168 75c, C173 25c, new 100p 25c, 200p 45c.
Colembia. C168 75c, C173 25c, new 100p 25c, 200p 45c.
Colembia. C169 \$3.25, C110 65c, C186 \$1.35, C186 \$1.05.
Venexuela. C69 \$3.25, C110 65c, C186 \$1.00, C443 \$1.00, C444 \$1.25, C490 \$1.00, C497 \$2.25, C515 \$1.25, C516 \$1.00, C517 3.00, C526 \$4.00.
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90-93	1.90	265-266	.2
97-106	2.30	267-269B	2.4
110-113	3.30	270-273	.21
	2.50	272	.11
	55	273-277	.31
	20	278-279	.70
122-136		280	.10
137-140	35	281-283	.64
142-156		284	.1
Egypt		285-287	.3
	3.60	289	3.70
	7.50	291	.50
	1.00	292-294	.3
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JUST OUT-Price list 56-1 listing the world's stamps issued during 1955.

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Luxembourg's Balloon Post Of 1927

James Taylor Dunn

For several days I have been reading a very interesting book, La Poste par Ballons Montes, 1870-1871 by J. Le Pileur of the French Philatelic Academy. It takes me back to 1927 when we in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg were present at a similar balloon ascension which happily took place under peaceful conditions. We did not have to go through the agony which forced France to use aerial transportation so that their enemy-encircled capitol might have contact with the outside world.

Twenty-seven years have passed since that picturesque event so unique in the air post history of the Grand Duchy.

The international postage stamp exhibit of 1927, organized by the Union of Luxembourg Philatelists (U.T.L.) in Luxembourg City's Municipal Palace (better known as Municipal Palace (better known as the Cercle) was about to wind up its sessions. Wanting a dignified and original finale, the president of the U.T.L. Bernard Wolff had the happy idea of contacting the great daily newspaper of Brussels, Le Soir, to organize a balloon post in combination with a great balloon rally on the afternoon of September 8. Specially designed cards, also Mr. Wolff's idea, were placed on sale at the exhibition. They alone could be carried by the balloon, all other correspondence being excluded.

It was arranged that when the balloon landed, the mail was to be dispatched to the nearest post of-

dispatched to the nearest post office so that a postmark could be applied to the cards before sending them on to their destinations.

The special cards had to be at the exposition's post office in the Cercle before it closed at noon on September 8. Here the stamps were cancelled with a special rectangular postmark which read:

PAR BALLON EXP. PHIL. LUXEMBOURG 8 Sept. 1927

Following this cancellation, the cards were placed in a postal bag and carried to nearby Limpertsberg and the large open square which is today occupied by the great Exhibition Halls. (Those same Halls where the 1952 CENTILUX was held). There the directors of the commercial fair of 1927 had built wooden halls, including the vast Great Industrial Palace. It was on the open square directly in the vast Great industrial Palace. It was on the open square directly in front of this building that the Soir balloon was inflated.

Three hundred feet away, however, the Schobermesse (annual autumn fair) was going at full force and using up a great amount of

autumn fair) was going at full force and using up a great amount of gas. Therefore the pressure was quite low and it took considerable time to inflate the balloon. Many laughed and said we could not succeed — that the whole thing would be a flop. But the crowd refused to give up. Finally, at about four o'clock in the afternoon, the spectators seemed to become alert. There was a steady flow of traffic between the fair and the balloon. All this time, however, hundreds of the more curious had stuck to their places, attentively watching the half-inflated ball which now rapidly grew bigger. The balloon finally lifted itself from the ground. "It's going to fly off!" people shouted. Held back by numerous ropes attached to bags of sand, the collosies hung motionless between

ropes attached to bags of sand, the collosus hung motionless between sky and earth. The ropes did not

sky and earth. The ropes did not give way.

The basket was hurriedly attached, the operator took charge, the baggage and ballast were thrown in. two men mounted—the crowd of spectators increased to thousands. No one, in the feverish expectancy of what was going to happen, dared say a word. It was five o'clock.

Suddenly there was a shout "Let

five o'clock.

Suddenly there was a shout "Let her go!" The ropes were loosened and the balloon proudly threw itself into the air, accompanied by astonished cheers. It rose higher and higher, heading east.

While spectators watched with higher propositions higher heading least.

while spectators watched with lively curiosity, many waiting bicyclists peddled off at full speed. Motorcycles and automobiles too, joined in on the race to catch up with the balloon. The grey ball disappeared into the blue sky and the crowd once again returned to the crowd once again returned to the fair.

While the fair continued to amuse most of the people, there was an eager chase taking place on the highway which led toward the east. The goal, of course, was to bring back the prizes for those who would first reach the balloon's landing place. Its course seemed to slow down; it began to descend . . . yes, it was really coming down to earth. The more daring of the pursuers jumped off their bikes, lifted them high on their schulders and was jumped off their bikes, lifted them high on their shoulders and ran across the fields; others hid their bicycles in the bushes and footed it breathlessly in pursuit. The balloon descended majestically and, without either snag or tear, it touched the ground. The first runners were soon at hand to offer their services.

They were nine miles from the

village of Roodt-on-the-Syr and the time was 8 o'clock in the evening, The mail was carried by these men to the post office at Roodt where the postmark "Roodt, 8-9-27/8-9 S" was applied to the cards before sending them off to their destinations.

Thus one of the pleasantest epi-sodes of Luxembourg's air post

sodes of Luxembourg's air post history ended.

As a spectacle, this balloon idea was certainly a great success. But the same cannot be said of the philatelic results. The field of Luxembourg's airmail collecting was still in its infancy and those philatelists who bought these cards did so more to have a souvenir of this singular event than especially to enrich their collections. That to enrich their collections. That explains why there were only about 500 of the cards mailed. Nowadays 500 of the cards mailed. Nowadays the collecting of airmail stamps and postmarks is considerably more widespread and philatelists are eagerly searching out all the early documents. They are becoming more and more rare and very soon will certainly be highly coveted items. These Roodt cards should figure at least in second place (after the cards of Mondorfies-Bains, see Airpost Journal, vol. 25, No. 2, November 1953) in every collection of Luxembourg Aerophilately which seeks to be complete.

(This article was first published in the now defunct stamp journal, Le Luxembourg Philatelique, vol. 3, no. 4, April 1947. Altogether unsigned, it is presumed to have been written by Jean-Pierre Heischbourg. This first English translawritten by Jean-Pierre Heischbourg. This first English translation has been made by a member of the Luxembourg Philatelic Study Club about which interested persons may obtain information by writing to Warren W. Sadler, #3222 Kensington Ave., Richmond, Va.)

Dealer * Doings

A lot of collectors wanted the A lot of collectors wanted the fine United States material advertised by Hy Bedrin, 116 Nassau St., New York 38, N. Y. in his year end sale in the November 14 edition. Closing date was January 15. Many have asked for an extension of the deadline due to being caught financially short from the holidays. Mr. Bedrin has extended the date to March 15. to March 15.

Alvin Coleman, 2264 Creston Ave., New York 53, N. Y. has a free list of mint complete sets of the stamps of Cuba, It is one of a series he plans to produce monthly and which will be sent to names which appear on his customer lists. To come are offerings of Liberia, Congo, Belgian East Africa, Israel, Vatican, Saar, Germany and Po-

Free of charge is List 56-A "Used British America, Complete" by Alex A. Jason, 911 Tenth St. N.W., Grand Rapids 4, Mich. He deals exclusively in used British King George VI and Queen Elizabeth issues. He also has the 1956 Commonwealth King George VI Catalog at \$1.25, and the Commonwealth Queen Elizabeth Catalog at \$1, both sent postpaid.

A move to another Pennsylvania community has been made by E. S. Myers who can now be reached through P. O. Box 311, Harrisburg, Pa. Mr. Myers has a comprehensive stock of the popular souvenir and miniature sheet specialty with and miniature sheet specialty with material from all over the world. He has a free list of such offerings. An ad this edition lists some of his items.

Back home from an extended vacation which took the family to Florida, Washington, D.C., Chicago, and Texas is Joseph V. Bush, 143 Garrett Ave., Chula Vista, Calif. He promises overtime working on the accumulated mail and the accumulated mail accumulated mail and the accumulated mail accumulated mail accumulated mail accumulated mail accumulated swering of letters. Sendings of the AMG items in which the firm spe-cializes will begin at ence and go on apace.

ers were soon at hand to offer neir services.

In 1956 at various times temporary post offices will be established at Scout camps in Sweden, Covers

with the special cancels can be gotten from Martin Bostrom, Hertig Karlsalle 59B, Orebro, Sweden at 15c each. Mr. Bostrom also services first day covers of Sweden, and other special events there. In-quiries must contain 10c in U. S. postage.

Beginning with this edition in the Classified Section under "Plate Blocks", The Stamp-Ade Co., 904 Carnegie Hall, Cleveland, Ohio, will have some very interesting ads for the next twelve weeks. The firm was the first to complete the full 248 blocks of the 8c bi-color Liberty. They offer exchange with col-lectors for plates of this issue.

The unusual? Charles J. Molnar, 1246 Summit Dr. Cleveland 24, Ohio 1246 Summit Dr. Cleveland 24, Ohio has it in an Illustrated Price List of Allied Propaganda: Leaflets of World War II. There are some 800 different items in eleven different languages. It can be had for \$1 which is deductible from the first \$5 order. This is a fine guide for the leaflets dropped by air on the enemy.

Gertner, P. O. Box 13, Sta. W, Brooklyn 11, N. Y. is currently offering semipostal issues in mint condition of two very popular countries — Belgium and Switzerland. The Gertner stock also includes Russia used, Holland mint and used, Turkey, Saar, Vatican, Switzerland in mint sets. Orders are filled in 24 hours; satisfaction guaranteed.

A 1956 Price List of the stamps of the United States, United Nations, Confederate States of America, U. S. Possessions, Canada and Newfoundland can be gotten from Howard R. Tanger, 3607 W. 113th St., Inglewood 2, Calif. for 25c which sum is deductible on the first order. Minor varieties as listed in the Scott Specialized are featured.

France-Colonies Group **Exhibition February 7**

The Fifth Annual Lesgor Contest of the France and Colonies Group is to be held at the Collectors Club, 22 E. 35th St., New York City February 7. Visitors are cordially invited to attend.

Entries in the exhibition are limited to three classes — Original Research — Open Class — One Subject, such as one stamp, one issue, etc. All must be confined to France and its Colonies and Possessions. There will be suitable prizes for the winning displays.

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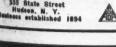
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The first stops on our alphabetical global tour of the British Colonies were Aden in southern Arabia, Aitutaki in Oceania and Antigua in the Caribbean. Our next stop, the island of ASCENSION, is hard to place geographically because it is so very far away from all continents. It is generally classified with the African continent, but is 1500 miles from the Gold Coast and 2000 directly west of Angola. 2000 directly west of Angola.

Its distance from the eastern-most point of Brazil is 1500 miles also, and if there was ever an is-land "in the middle of nowhere" Ascension fits this description per-

A barren volcanic rock of 34 A barren volcanic rock of 34 square miles, measuring seven miles by five, Ascension juts out of the South Atlantic Ocean which does its best to make the island unhospitable by frequent giant tidal

ASCENSION is one of the "dependencies" of St. Helena, the others being Tristan da Cunha, Nighting ale, Inaccessible and Gough Islands, the last three uninhabitable. It owes its name to a Portuguese navigator who stumbled upon it on Ascension Day, early in the 16th century.

upon it on Ascension Day, early in the 16th century.

The Briitsh took possession of the island in 1815 when a naval garrison was placed on Ascension after Napoleon had been brought to St. Helena as his place of detention and eventual death.

Ascension remained under the British Admiralty until 1922 when it came under the control of the Colonial Office. It is administered from St. Helena, 700 miles to the northwest.

from St. Helena, 700 miles to the northwest.

For all practical purposes, AS-CENSION today is the private domain of a commercial corporation, Cable and Wireless, Ltd. In fact, the head of the island and acting magistrate is the company's resident manager! It requires his personal permission for any outsider to set foot on the lava soil of Ascension.

cension.

The population consists of about 175 souls, give or take a dozen. Of these, about 50 are Englishmen, their wives and children; the rest are St. Helena employees with their families. The latter are of mixed origin, being descended from settlers from Great Britain under the old East India Company and employees and slaves introduced

employees and slaves introduced from Africa and Asia.

Incidentally, the "Postmistress" is the wife of one of the British company officers, appointed to the post by the St. Helena Governor. Law and order is enforced by a police force of two St. Helena control of the post by the st. lice force of two St. Helena con-stables and it is highly unlikely that these find their work over-

stables and it is highly unlikely that these find their work overtaxing.

It is fairly safe to assume that Ascension would be uninhabited if it were not for the operations of the cable company. All water has to be distilled from the sea and much of the food stuffs have to be brought in from outside. Nevertheless, the company maintains an active and profitable farm on Green Mountain (see Scott types A10 and A12), the highest peak on Ascension, elevation 2870 feet.

Besides the livestock on the company farm, there are some wild donkeys, rabbits, wild cats, a few goats and a few partridges.

Sea-bird life is very plentiful; in particular, Ascension is famed for the vast numbers of "Wide-awake" or "Hack-backed" terns which breed there (See Scott type A9). Turtles abound at certain seasons and the waters around the island teem with fish—sharks, barracudas, tunas, bonitos and a local small one called "black fish".

Georgtown is the capital and only major settlement. The currency, in common with St. Helena, is British sterling. The island is

only major settlement. The currency, in common with St. Helena, is British sterling. The island is strewn with mementos of Ascension's brief days of glory. Unimportant as the island may seem to-day, it was an absolutely vital strategic key spot during World War II. During that period, the island was virtually under U. S. Military oc-

cupation. U. S. Army engineers built a

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THEO. BEER 1767 Undereliff Ave. New York 53 N. large airfield and refueling station in record time for the Air Transport Command. It had a runway of 7000 feet and served as a stopover point on flights between Natal and Accra. It is not likely that Ascension will ever fulfill this important role again since our modern aircraft hop from continent to continent without need of refueling. Philatelically, Ascension offers

continent without need of refueling. Philatelically, Ascension offers an attractive field with an excellent investment potential. Before 1922, regular stamps of Great Britain, cancelled either with a circular date stamp or an oval registration postmark were in exclusive use. Dates as early as the 1860's have been found and such stamps with clear "Ascension" strike are naturally far more valuable than ordinary British stamps.

Covers earlier than 1880 are gen-

Covers earlier than 1880 are gen-Covers earlier than 1880 are genuine philatelic museum pieces. As contact with the outer world increased, the island's postmark on British stamps became more common, although by no means plentiful. The most commonly found items are Great Britain Scott Nos. 127, 128, 159 and 160 which sell in Lordon for about a della coch. London for about a dollar each.

Nearly all other Ascension post-marks from 1881 onwards fetch anywhere from \$2 to \$10 per stamp, covers always selling for a fat pre-mium. Obviously, covers bearing evidence of commercial or private use are far more intriguing to the collector than those of a strictly philatelic nature.

philatelic nature.

ASCENSION'S stamp issues can be divided into four principal sets plus the usual Silver Jubilee, Coronation, Peace, Silver Wedding and UPU. The first of these four major sets was placed on sale on November 2, 1922 and consists of the thencurrent King George V set of St. Helena overprinted "ASCENSION" in black or red. As the basic issues only went up to 3/-, it was deemed sufficient to limit Ascension's denominations to that value sion's denominations to that value

By 1924, these provisionals were replaced by the first regular King George V series, again up to 3/-, but with 4d, 5d and 6d values added which had not been included previously. Surprisingly, the 6d is the set's best value and sells for close to, or full, Scott, mint or used, that is, if you are lucky enough to locate a conv. cate a copy!

Gibbons also notes Scott #11 with

Gibbons also notes Scott #11 with the frame in bright blue green and prices it at \$2.10 mint and \$2.80 used, quite a difference in value from the usual deep green.

In 1934, as in so many other colonies, the new policy of highly attractive pictorial stamps was put into practice. The second KGVI regular issue, placed on sale on July 2, gave collectors their first glimpse of what the island of Ascension actually looks like and was very popular from the start.

cension actually looks like and was very popular from the start.

Ascension's KGV Silver Jubilee set is the second-best of all the colonies, only that of Mauritius being more expensive. Its 1/-top value is a very sound item. The fourth and still current set, the KGVI pictorial issue which was first placed on sale on May 12, 1938, is about to be replaced by a new Queen Elizabeth set.(The designs were described in our December 26 column). Therefore this might be

Scott, in a foot note, provides the tantalizing bit of information that "Perf 13½ specimens of Nos. 40 to 49 command considerably higher prices", but this will hardly satisfy the collector who is actively interested in this field and is thus forced to look elsewhere for adequate information.

orced to look elsewhere for adequate information.

The British "Commonwealth" catalogue has solved this problem in the most logical way by simply breaking up the Ascension KGVI issue into three distinct sets: Perf 13½, Perf 13 and, since 1949, Perf 14.

The new "Minkus" catalogue provides more information than Scott, but for our money the "Commonwealth" does the most concise job. The widest price gap is found on Scott #41A which is worth more than ten times as much with perforation 13½ than the perforation 13

Judging from the advance information, the forthcoming QEII set will be even more attractive than the preceding issues and will thus the preceding issues and will thus serve to increase Ascension's great popularity with stamp collectors everywhere: It is expected that the new set will also be on sale at St. Helena for the convenience of tourists and travellers, as the KGVI issue is, although it is valid for postage only on Ascension, of

course.
See you next week!

Topical Chapter For Nashville, Tenn. Area

The American Topical Assn. is completing plans to form a branch chapter in Nashville, Tenn. It is for all collectors in that area interested in topical stamp collecting. All interested persons in the Nashville area can contact Roger Ortmayer, Route 1, Brentwood, Tenn., for further details.

Since collectors in other areas may wish to form branch chapters in their respective communities.

in their respective communities, they may write to Harvey Johnson, 111 Prospect St., Elmhurst, Ill., for branch chapter information.

Those wishing information on membership in the American Topical Assn. can write Allyn H.

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Luxembourg, A Country Worthy Of Your Talents

Marie C. Dunn

Stamp articles can have many titles such as: "Hisory of the Post Office;" "The Postage Stamp, a Picture of Its Country;" "Psychology Through Stamps" and last but not least "Stamp Collecting, a Wholesome and Stimulating Hobby." Nothing widens the mind's horizon more than does the combination of this hobby and a worthwhile subject. The small Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, 37 miles across at its widest and 62 miles in maximum lengh, offers, in spite of its compact size, a spacious field for the amateur as well as for the scholarly collector.

From the great 12th century re-From the great 12th century reformer Ermesinde down to the present much-beloved and gracious Grand Duchess Charlotte, Luxembourg's age-old history is well depicted on its stamps. The Caritas issues bear varied portraits of the Grand Ducal family up to the oldest son's recent wedding-picture, Prince Jean with Princess Josephine-Charlotte of Belgium.

These portrait stamps stand as a symbol of the quietly strong Luxembourg family; it is a family of about 300,000 members, or one third of a million of the 2,400 million of the 2 lion human beings on our planet. These third of a milliom Luxembourgers express as one their strong hold on the land to which they belong. Through stamps are pictured two of the 130 feudal castles widely distributed throughout the rugged granders of the 'out the rugged grandeur of the Ardennes' towering, wooded slopes

Arcientes' towering, wooded stopes.

Ancient Luxembourg City, formerly a much fought over fortress, was built upon overshadowing Rocks 963 A.D. and appears on stamps depicting various aspects of her ramparts and magnificently bridged valleys. The old bastion is now concealed by flowers and moss hides the ravaged face of force, fear and suspicion. force, fear and suspicion.

Wars over Luxembourg were not fought for the scant resources of the soil it stands on, but rather from fear that a rival should gain possession of its favorable situation. The dismantled fortifications are used now to attract tourists. The Luxembourger's vitality has preserved the sovereign and independent life of an ancient state through so many centuries of shock and change.

During the past 102 years of

and change.

During the past 102 years of Luxembourg's postal history, the fundamentally deep religious conviction of the Luxembourg family has been proved through their issued adhesives. Life and religion are one in Luxembourg, as the people and the land are one. The welcome feeling of finding quiet strength and unity in religious worship are shown through stamps representing the Notre-Dame cathedral, three and a half centuries old; the votive altar, symbol of offerings and the unfailing faith in the city's patron Saint, the "Consolatrix Afflictorum" for pilgrims and sufferers. The stamp of the statue of the Virgin Mary shows her wearing a robe—woven and worked by the hands of Maria-Theresa, empress of Austria and ruler of Luxembourg; in itself this gives an example of artistic endea-yor and strong devotion. gives an example of artistic endea-

yor and strong devotion.

Since there is a castle around every corner and a story beneath every stone, folklore has also found its way to Luxenbourg's stamps. Generations of listeners in farms. castles, priories and convents have handed the timeless legends and their morals on from everywhere for everyone. Luxembourg's folk-lore tells of the country's customs, of its people's childhood, the humor, the imagination—character treats which are exchad on every

of its people's childhood, the humor, the imagination—character traits which are etched on every inch of the stamps issued.

A born raconteur, the Luxembourger is no saint, his views on politics and mankind are edged with cynicism, an inevitable result of centuries of foreign encroachment. Stamps have been printed to commemorate the liberation from Nazi occupation. Issues of stamps have honored Luxembourg's youth, soldiers and the underground, the deported, the political prisoners and the murdered.

Through Luxembourg's postage, thanks went to America, to France, to Britain and to Russia, for the

thanks went to America, to France, to Britain and to Russia, for the opening of the Freedom Road. General Patton, Luxembourg's liberator during the Rundstedt offensive, is commemorated along with the Hamm cemetery stamp where Patton lies in Luxembourg soil among many of his soldiers. Thus cour-age has with grateful respect been honored through philatelic contri-lutions butions.

butions.

Luxembourg is a truly democratic nation and class prejudice is practically non-existant. Cabinet ministers, farmers, bank clerks,

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garage mechanics, all drink and talk at the round-table of the local cafes. Their country is too small to play the "grand manner."

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Luxembourg can be justly proud of its highly developed educational system. Since most Lupxembourgers learn and speak, besides their own language, French, German and a good many, English, they are able to choose among the neighboring countries to finish their higher education. Before starting practice in Luxembourg, however, a state examination is obligatory. Two of Luxembourg's most venerated sons have appeared on stamps. "Dicks" (Edmond de la Fontaine) was a poet in the land's own Luxembourg language—a language older than French, the country's diplomatic language, or German systems of the state of

try's diplomatic language, or German which it resembles only superficially.

Michel Lentz the author of Luxembourg's national anthem, and several composers have been honored on stamps. Landscape-artist painter J. B. Fresez also has a stamp to his name. The Luxembourger, a lover of nature and freedom removatic by instinct rether dom, romantic by instinct rather than by conscious inclination, car-ries the earthy artistic vein in his blood.

ries the earthy artistic vein in his blood.

A series of special stamps have been issued to bring support to the distressed, its national orphans, war-victims and wards of the state. One drawing shows a little girl's haggard looks, yet with a slight tinge of new hope. Another drawing, a tormented little boy seeking refuge in his mother's arms.

The Luxembourger's intelligence induces him to reflect, to combine, to preserve; the obscure does not frighten him. As strong as his individuality, in fact the companion to it, is his taste for work and work well done; this in turn helps to secure the individual. He is a hard worker too, though without signs of urgency and bustle. His is almost a unique attitude toward time. of urgency and bustle. His is almost a unique attitude toward time. A visit may last two minutes or two hours, according to the momentary inclination. He is master of his time, instead of time mastering him.

The southern industrial belt has been the guitaget for three groups.

The southern industrial belt has been the subject for three stamps. This steel center produced before the war one fifth of the world's steel. Here is the land of blackened blast furnaces and huge piles of slag, at the foot of which cows graze deep in luxuriant grass. To celebrate the occasion of Luxembourg's International Fair, a stamp was issued. The design is the was issued. The design is the winged letter "L" flying over a map of Europe, its shadow touching the Grand Duchy's outlines. A Luxembourg artist Lex Weyer designed it.

An important part of any people is their ability to relax. The Luxembourger, a keen sportsman, likes football games, bicycle races and is an avid follower of the Tour de France and Olympic Games. In fact he was well represented in the latter by the great runner Josy Barthel. To commemorate sports in general and the Olympic Games of Helsinki and the World Cycle Race Championship of 1952 in particular, Luxembourg issued a set of stamps picturing a hurdle race, soccer, boxing, water-polo, cycling and fencing. This set was designed by another Luxembourg artist, Jean Jacoby, and his son. One An important part of any people Jean Jacoby, and his son. One single stamp was issued in 1954 to honor the World Fencing Champion-

In 1951 a set of three special adhesives came into circulation issued by Luxembourg's Postal Administration in favor of the propa-gation of the United Europe idea. ministration in favor of the propa-gation of the United Europe idea. The first stamp is dedicated to economy and social progress, pic-turing factories, dwellings and in the foreground a farmer laboring in his field. The second stamp pic-tures man's rights to liberty

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through a United Europe and it shows a group of four persons of different ages; on the left side is a map of Europe and on the right side the charter of liberty.

The third stamp deals with peace through a United Europe and shows a scale attached to the globe evenly balancing a block of granite on each side with the inscriptions. ly balancing a block of granite on each side with the inscriptions "United Europe" and "Peace." Luxembourg is a partner of the Benelux, standing for the customs union formed in 1948 between Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg. The Grand Duchy has also issued a set honoring the United Nations.

issued a set honoring the United Nations.

Radio Luxembourg, one of the biggest air stations of the world, in fact the most powerful in Europe, is represented on a stamp. This strong voice of the air plus the last part of Benelux, 'lux', which means "international unit of illumination"—combined, these two perhaps sound preposterous in speaking of the third smallest country of Europe. Yet it is a reality just as the historic past and fascinating present pictured on Luxembourg's stamps are a reality.



Kenneth M. Gierhart P. O. Box 302 Baltimore Ohie

CORRECTION

The reporting of the 7c Bureau from Richmond, Va. as a Liberty was a bit previous. It was a Presidential. Just one of those blank moments I get far too often. Thanks to Gordon L. Wall of Albuquerque, N. M. for calling this one to my attention.

BULLETIN BOARD

The Nebraska News bulletin of the Nebraska Precancel Society mailed from Hamlet, Nebr. with 1c Liberties (U-122 type). The news reports that there are 401 towns and 606 types from Nebraska. Also that Minnesota has 619 towns. The Iowa count is 775 Towns and 1183

types.

The BUCKEYE bulletin of the Central Ohio Precancel Club was mailed with a new type from Salem, Ohio (U-120n). Addresses of these clubs furnished for return postage (no precancels).

VAN WERT ENVELOPE.

A 1c (new issue envelope) from Van Wert, Ohio has been used for some time, I have been told, by the American Legion of that city. The legend is not the "non profit organization" but rather under "39 c. f. r. 34.65(e)" class.

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Luxembourg's Special Postal Markings Of 1955

April 16—Cancellation Vive Le Prince used to celebrate the birth of Prince Henri, Regular postmark with boxed legend at left.

April 18—Inaugural Flight, Luxembourg-Stuttgart. Circular cancellation with a Sabena airplane in the center, and second decorative cancellation which was applied at destination.

April 24—Lyce de Jeunes Filles, Esch-sur-Alzette. Circular cancellation. Celebrates inauguration of a new school at Esch.

May 14—Official inauguration of Tele-Luxembourg. Rectangular cancel in form of a television set.

May 15-22—Semaine de la Resistance (Resistance Week). Sword piercing a snake (the Nazis) in a narrow rectangle.

May 22—1st Flight, Luxembourg-Reykjavik-New York. Circular cancellation including airplane, above which are the words "Icelandic Airlines Loftleider."

June 18—50th anniversary of Rotary International and 25th anniversary

Airlines Lottleider."

June 18—50th anniversary of Rotary International and 25th anniversary of the Luxembourg Rotary Club. Circular mark with Rotary wheel surrounding a view of one of the Luxembourg-City bridges.

July 9-24—International Fair, Luxembourg City. Cancellation used at a temporary post office set up in the new Fair Hall in Limbertsberg. Circular cancel decorated with a winged helmet.

Sept. 4-6-65th anniversary of the Union des Timbrophiles Luxembourgeois (U.T.L.). Circular cachet decorated with a crown, two oak leaves, and dates 1890-1955.

For Rotarians, a nice souvenir is the small, card-size Brochure of one sheet folded to make a leaflet, with the Rotary wheel and text on the cover and on the inside a stamp (a Mondorfles-Bains flower) cacheted by the special Luxembourg-City cancellation mentioned above, dated June 18, 1955. The souvenir is limited and numbered and was issued by Raymond Thill, Rumelange. 25057 25080 25132 25144 25204 25061 25129 25137

25131

25203

24912 24913 24914 24915 24926 24929 24930 24932 24933

color. They were:
24916 24917 24918 24919
24935 24936 24937 24939

They were: 24923 24924 24928 24930

In the Rotary printing there were five plate numbers printed in blue.

Two numbers were printed in red, together with those above, in the Rotary printing. They were:—24927; 24938.

In various combinations of the

of the plate numbers, there was a total of 62 of the flat plate and rotary combined. Each combination was found in all four positions, making a total of 248 different plate blocks, combinations, and positions to the 8c Liberty.

of all to complete.

The foregoing represents the first six stamps of this series released in 1954. In 1955 all the six new denominations had the minimum printing of two plates each. They were as follows:

Lee Benjamin Franklin, with the state of t

and 25192.

and 25233.

leased to date.

.00 C339 1.90 C380 .60 C381 .90 C444 1.25 C460 2.50 C461 1.25 C462 3.00 C463 .90 C478 1.25 C479 1.25 C496

as follows:

Benjamin Franklin, with
numbers 25263 and 25264.

Teddy Roosevelt, with 25191

30c Robert E. Lee, with 25251 and 40c John Marshall, with 25249 and 50c Susan B. Anthony, with 25232

Patrick Henry, with 25257

This rounded out the six values of the Liberty series in 1955, with two-thirds of the entire series re-

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.10 C497 1.25 C498 1.00 C499 1.25 C514 1.50 C515 3.25 C516 1.25 C517 6.50 C523 1.10 C524 2.75 C526 2.10 C527 1.90 C546

PLATE BLOCK -- THOUGHTS and COMMENTS

M. X. WEISS 2806 W. Eastwood Ave., Chicago 25, Ill.

LIBERTY SERIES IN REVIEW

I feel certain that most plate block collectors and dealers share the good judgment of the Post Office Department in having distributed this new general issue series over an extended period. Official bulletins released early this year have indicated that the last six stamps of the complete series of 18 will be released in 1956.

Six of these eighteen came out

stamps of the complete series of 18 will be released in 1956.

Six of these eighteen came out in 1954. They were the 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c and 8c. An additional six came out in 1955. They were the ½c, 6c, 30c, 40c, 50c and \$1.00. In each instance they did not follow the numerical orders as listed here.

The remaining six will be the 1½c, 7c, 9c, 10c, 20c and \$5.

I thought it might be a good idea to give you, annually, the total number of plates for each of these regular issues so that you can compare them with the totals of the previous year. This will give most collectors a clearer picture of how many new plate numbers are printed and used each year for this regular series. It may also help collectors determine the cost of maintaining the regular issues over and above the commemoratives, if they too are collected as is the case in nearly every instance.

Normally the thought of collect.

above the commemoratives, if they too are collected as is the case in nearly every instance.

Normally the thought of collecting the regular issues in plate blocks is sometimes alarming. Two principal factors go into this state of mind. With the Liberty series it may appear that the face value and/or the premium necessary to buy them is costly. This, I would say, may be due to the abbreviation of this regular series from the former 32 stamps to the new current 18 varieties. The second factor which is probably the more difficult one, is being able to add to the collection the subsequent plate numbers following the original printing of the first two plates.

Since the Philatelic Agency in Washington, D. C., has not attempted, in the past, to keep stock of the regular issues; in all numbers and positions, it may therefore be more or less a "cetch as cetch ear"

regular issues; in all numbers and positions, it may therefore be more or less a "catch as catch can" proposition in being up to date with additional printings of all denominations. That's where the thrill of maintaining a collection comes in, although I am sure an easier solution to maintaing the Liberty series would be welcome.

It would also follow that there would be many more collectors pursuing the regular series if all additional printed plate numbers.

additional printed plate numbers could be located and purchased with less headache.

In 1954 the 1c Washington came out, which, to date, has only seen the use of our plate numbers. They

were:
25030 25031 25032 25033
In the same year, the 2c Jefferson came out, and to date at least
22 plates have been printed and are in the hands of many collectors. They are: 25046 25047 25050 25051

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AUSTRIA. The 200th anniversary of the birth of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was honored with the issuance of a 2.40S blue stamp on January 18. The design shows a portrait of Mozart done when he was 26 years old.

ARGENTINA. On December 31 a 3 peso stamp was issued for

25130

25138 25150

(A more detailed listing of these

ARGENTINA. On December 31
a 3 peso stamp was issued for the "Brotherhood of the Armed Forces". The design shows the National Arms superimposed on the wings of the Air Force which in turn is superimposed on the wings of the Air Force which in turn is superimposed on the anchor of the Navy.

CHINA (Communist). A set of eighteen stamps has been proposed for the Five Year Plan. On October 2 nine of these values were released. Each stamp is 8f face value and each stamp has a design dealing with the progress of the Plan.

CUBA. Two stamps, as usual, was issued for Christmas 1955. On the 2c green the inscription "Navidad 1955-56" is in red and on the 4c red stamp it is in green.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. "C onstructions of Socialism" is the theme of a set of four stamps issued on December 15. The values and designs are: 20h green (Railway Line); 60h blue (Railway Line); 60h (A more detailed listing of these plate numbers will appear in the next plate number report)

On the 3c Liberty, also a 1954 issue, at least 50 plate numbers have been printed and have been in circulation. Just about all positions have been reported. (A more complete picture of the 3c Liberty will be included in the next plate number report.)

The 4c Lincoln has seen four plate numbers. They are:

25075 25076 25081 25082

The 5c Monroe has also seen four plate numbers. They are:

25087 25088 25090 25091

The 8c Liberty, in bi-color, is the

The 8c Liberty, in bi-color, is the sixth stamp, actually the first one issued. It was originally printed in two processes, in the flate plate printing and the rotary. In the flat plate there were nine plate numbers, printed in blue color: These were:

Together with these were eight plate numbers printed in the red

A SPECIAL IN U.S.

combinations, and positions to the 8c Liberty.

In February 1955 one more red plate number went to press. It was 24920. Not much of this has been seen. Several reports came in for this number, with blue plates 24913 and 24915. We hope more of these will show up later. This 8c stamp has been, by far, the most difficult of all to complete.

The foregoing represents the first Scott's #24 the 1e 1857, #63 the 1e 1861, #68 the 10c 1861 and #73 2c Black Jack. All undamaged nice copies but off center. All Four For Only \$2.60.

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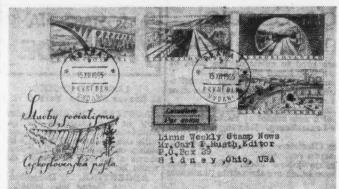
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AUGUST GEIGER



PHILATELIC RAILROADERS will go for three of the four stamps Czechoslovakia issued December 15 picturing Construction made under the socialist regime. All designs were by Frantisek Hudecek. The 20 halerus green has a railway viaduct; 30h brown, train on a viaduct; 60h blue, train entering railway tunnel; 1.60 Crowns red, miners' center. Engraving of the designs was by Jan Mracek, Ladislav Jirka, Jindra Schmidt and Bedrich Housa respectively.

Slick Talker Clips Dealer

The Washington Post and Times Herald recently carried a news item which should prove as a warning to dealers and collectors.

A dapper "con" man who posed as a "secretary" to Sen. Alben W. Barkley (D-Ky.) and vanished with a \$500 collection of rare stamps entrusted to him by a Washington stamp dealer became the object of a police and FBI search.

Police said the hoax was discovered when the victim of the deception identified a picture of an ex-convict with a three-page record for similar offenses as the man who duped him.

Max Strassman, who with his wife, Doris, operates the Knickerbocker Stamp Co., 736 12th St. N.W., Washington, D. C. said he loaned the stamps to the smoothtalking stranger after the latter said he wanted to "show them to my wife."

Strassman's trust in the man was built up over a period of 10 days, which began with Strassman

Strassman's trust in the man was built up over a period of 10 days, which began with Strassman buying \$235 worth of old coins from the suspect, Det. Sgt. Schuyler Cox reported.

Strassman said the man represented himself as Barkley's secretary and flashed several notes on stationery from Capitol Hill offices by way of reassurance.

Police said a check with Barkley's office showed that the manwas not known there. In a lookout, police warned the suspect, who preys upon collectors of old coins and stamps, may try to pass himself off with other Capitol Hill connections with articles stolen from

nections with articles stolen from Hill offices.
Police said the suspect is white, 33 years old, well dressed, 5 feet 5 inches tall and weighs about 145 pounds. Cox said he has brown heir and often weers a "rork pie hair and often wears a "pork pie hat."



Jan. 39—Matthew Bennett, 2995 Cortland Detroit 6. Mich. United States, British Cols., General, Whise, incl. blocks. Cols., General, Whise, incl. blocks. Jan. 30-Feb. 1—H. R. Harmer, Inc., 6 W. 48th St., New York 36, N. Y. Hackett lection of U. B. Proofs, Essays. Jan. 31—S. Pinchot, 505 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y. United States, inc. airmails, France and Colonies.

fan. 31—S. Serebrakian, 15 Park Row, New York 38, N. Y. U. S., Britain & Cols., Airs, France & Cols., General.

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Feb. 1—Rev. E. C. Reeve, Clearfield, Pa.
United States mint and used. From the
1847's to Columbians.
Feb. 2—H. Lazarus, 29 Wadsworth Ave.,
New York 33, N. Y. 33, N. Y. World
Postal History material; Poland rare
items.

items.

Feb. 4—Louis L. Williams, 402 S. Mercer
Ave., Bloomington, III. United States
Plate Blocks. Plate Hiors.

Feb. 6-9-H. R. Harmer, Inc., 6 W. 48th
St., New York 36, N. Y. "Hackett Collection" of U. S. Proofs, Essays.

10-J. E. Rasdale. 505 E. Walker, St. hns, Mich. United States and General reign, mint and used.

Feb. 14—Alex S. Juliard, Narberth, Pa. United States, Europe and Possessions classic issues.

CHASSIC ISSUES.

Feb. 15—Alcuri & Meyer P.O. Box 1013,
Coral Gables, Fla. DeLuxe Germany and
States incl. stationery.

Feb. 16—Hugh Watchorn, 1425 Williston
Rd., Burlington, Vt. European Nations
and Colonles, General.

Feb. 17—Michael M. Karen, 1467 Greenport Rd., Far Rockaway, N. Y. United States, Philatelic Literature.

Feb. 18—Meridian Stamp Co., 2351 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, Ind. U. S., Brit. Emp., General, Collections.
Feb. 20-24—H. B. Harmer, Inc., 6 W. 48th St., New York 36, N. Y. United States, Airmail, General Foreign.

Arman, General Foreign.
Feb. 25—Earl P. Apfelbaum, 1416 S. Penn
Sq., Philadelphia 2, Pa. United States
and British North America.
Feb. 27—H. B. Zeitlin, 1796 Riverside Dr.,
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America, General, Stationery.

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SPECIAL EDITIONS

Various dealers will want to time some of their advertising to appear in conjunction with the special editions of Linn's Weekly Stamp News sponsored by different specialist groups. These editions are always the last one of each month and contain a splendid amount of information about the particular country or specialty.

country or specialty.

The next four editions of a special nature are as follows: February 27—Society of Israel Philatelists.

March 27 - National Highway

March 27 — National Highway
Post Office Society.
April 24—PERFINS (Perforated Initials on Stamps Society).
May 29 — Roman States Society

Further inquiries can be directed to this paper by inter-

ested dealers.
Clubs or societies agreeable
to sponsoring a special edition
can get the details on request.

Ryukyu Islands Note Arbor Week

Arbor Week, February 18 to 25, is going to be recognized by the Ryukyu Islands with a 4 yen green commem the design of which has a stylized representation of trees in a forest. While no first day of issue was given, it is presumed that it will be on February 18 or a few days before.



Printing is by photogravure in sheets of 50 subjects, 5 x 10, in a quantity of 200,000.

quantity of 200,000.

First day covers will be provided. It will take two of the stamps for sea-mail delivery to any country. Airmail to the North American continent takes 35 yen, or nine stamps. If registration is desired this fee is 20 yen over and above the postage.

The minimum order acceptable, and it can include first day covers and mint stamps, is \$1. One dollar

and it can include first day covers and mint stamps, is \$1. One dollar is equivalent to 120 yen. Make remittances payable to Philatelic Adviser, Public Services Dept., USCAR, APO 331, San Francisco, Calif. Use a postal money order. Collectors must supply their own addressed envelopes for first day covers. These must arrive by February 17 so airmail is mandatory. Airmail directed to the Philatelic Adviser address is 6c per ounce. ounce.

HAUNTED CASTLES (Continued from page 1)

the issuing of semi-postals, there has seldom been more than one set a year and the country's record compared with that of most of its neighbors is excellent. All issues have been available for a definite and well advertised period.

A little research into the lives of

the ancient rulers shown upon some of them makes interesting reading. Luxembourg has turned to the

Luxembourg has turned to the printing houses of many countries for its stamps. Early issues were produced locally and in Germany. The well-known firm of J. Enschede en Zonen of the Netherlands was the favored supplier of the issues from 1880 to 1926, in which year the American Bank Note Company furnished the Charlotte issue in use until the war; this same firm engraved the new Charlotte issue after the Liberation in 1944

Character issue after the Elbera-tion in 1944.

Enschede continued to supply special issues, both engraved and in photogravure, while the famous Swiss firm of Courvoisier provided numerous series in photograyure. Several beautiful postwar engrav-

ings are the work of the French Government printing plant.

A beautiful collection of the postal cards from 1870 can be assembled. Those of later years with scenes are particularly attractive, while the 1938 letter cards are among the prettiest pieces of postal stationery ever issued.

among the prettiest pieces of postal stationery ever issued.

The officials form a group which may be omitted completely if one feels dismayed at the number of overprints, but they will repay one who really likes to study overprints. The writer tries to obtain them in used condition only and it is a real search.

search.

The Scott Catalogue reference to counterfeits may discourage some potential Luxembourg collectors. However, although they exist along with counterfeits of most other nawith counterfeits of most other nations, they are not nearly so common as Scott indicates and they offer a nice sideline in themselves. Excellent descriptions and illustrations are easily obtainable and the new collector should study them before buying early issues from other than a reliable dealer. This article has attempted to outline some of the possibilities of a Luxembourg collection in the hope of helping those looking for desirable new fields to conquer. The Luxembourg Philatelic Study club offers several services, such as a

Luxembourg Philatelic Study club offers several services, such as a neatly mimeographed journal, frequent auctions and expertising of doubtful stamps.

Information and a copy of the journal may be obtained by sending 25c to the secretary, Warren W.

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Mr. Harmer based this opinion
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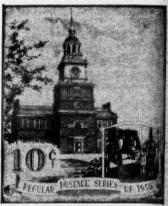


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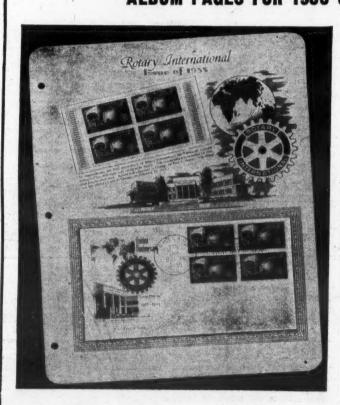


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